



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Vernal Field Office
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Vernal, UT 84078
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IN REPLY REFER TO:
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UT084

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JUL 01 2004

June 30, 2004

DIV. OF OIL, GAS & MINING

State of Utah
Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining
Attn: Paul Baker
1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210
P.O. Box 145801
Salt Lake City, UT 84114-5801

Re: Request from American Gilsonite to
Release Roads from Reclamation
Liability

Dear Mr. Baker

I have reviewed the information supplied from American Gilsonite, along with Uintah County's letter, regarding American Gilsonite's request to remove acreage from their Disturbed Acreage list. I found it difficult to determine what roads or portions thereof were being requested to be released from their Disturbed Acreage list as the written description in their letter did not correlate to the supplied map, i.e. road #6 described as the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 17, Township 9 South, Range 25 East vs. a map depiction of multiple townships and sections. Plus the request did not identify the surface owner/managing agency responsible for determining if American Gilsonite's request was acceptable and the provided map was of poor quality.

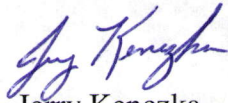
Based upon what I could glean from the provided map and our GIS data, it appears that the roads identified as #6, #7, #9, #13, #14, #15, #17, and #18 are either wholly or partially located upon BLM managed lands. For roads #8 and #12, I could not determine whether or not they were wholly or partially located upon BLM managed lands, so better data, such as GPS data, would be required from American Gilsonite in order for our office to respond to their request.

Should American Gilsonite desire to leave the roads located upon BLM managed lands in place, the roads will need to be authorized under a Title V right-of-way (ROW). From the provided information, it appears that Uintah County also desires to leave several of the roads in place as a part of their transportation infrastructure. American Gilsonite has several options available to them if they are interested in pursuing this process. One option would be for American Gilsonite to apply for and acquire the ROW. American Gilsonite could then either leave the ROW in their name or work with Uintah County to have the ROW assigned over to them. Another option for

American Gilsonite would be for them to work with Uintah County to have Uintah County apply for and receive the ROW.

Should you have any questions related to our response, please contact me at 435-781-4440.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jerry Kenczka", is positioned above the printed name.

Jerry Kenczka
AFM Operations